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PB
3/26/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application:

MATSUSHIMA

Atty. Ref.: 1035-360

Serial No.: 10/052,345

Group Unit: 2871

Filed: January 23, 2002

Examiner: K. Parker

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

* * * * *

March 20, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed March 6, 2003, Applicant elects for examination the invention of Group II, *i.e.*, claims 9-19.

The election is made without traverse. Because this requirement is never proper unless the restricted groups of claims are patentably distinct (*i.e., inter alia*, non-obvious under 35 U.S.C Section 103) from the elected group of claims, the Examiner is requested to insure that such patentable distinctness is present before proceeding to make the requirement final.

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MATSUSHIMA
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Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims prior to the termination of proceedings in this application or any continuing application based thereon.

Respectfully submitted,
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